

REMARKS

The specification and claims 12-15 have been amended, and new claims 19-23 have been added. Claims 12-23 are pending, with claims 12, 16, and 21 being independent.

Attached hereto is an Appendix entitled "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made" which is a marked-up version of the portions of the application which have been amended by the present amendment, with brackets indicating deleted matter and underlining indicated added matter.

Submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS), consideration of which is respectfully requested.

The drawings were objected to by the PTO draftsman for the reasons set forth on the form PTO-948 attached to the Office Action of June 20, 2001. Submitted herewith is a paper entitled "Letter to the Official Draftsman Traversing Objection to Drawings on Form PTO-948" in which the applicants have traversed the PTO draftsman's objection to the drawings, and it is respectfully requested that the application be forwarded to the PTO draftsman for review of this paper before the Examiner issues another Office communication so that the Examiner can advise the applicants of the PTO draftsman's decision in the next Office communication.

An IDS was filed on October 15, 1999. The Office Action of June 20, 2001, includes a copy of the form PTO-1449 from the IDS of October 15, 1999, marked by the Examiner to

indicate that all of the cited references have been considered.

#4. Another IDS was filed on November 24, 1999, as evidenced by the attached copy of a post card receipt stamped by the PTO Office of Initial Patent Examination (OIPE) acknowledging receipt of that IDS on November 24, 1999. This IDS did not include a form PTO-1449. However, the Office Action of June 20, 2001, does not indicate that the IDS of November 24, 1999, has been considered, or otherwise specifically refer to the IDS of November 24, 1999.

o 6. However, in the "Attachment(s)" section on page 1 (the Office Action Summary) of the Office Action of June 20, 2001, the Examiner has indicated that "Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2, 4" are attached to the Office Action of June 20, 2001. Perhaps "Paper No. 4" is the IDS of November 24, 1999. In any event, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner, in the next Office communication, specifically indicate on the record that the IDS of November 24, 1999, has been considered.

Nothing. The Office Action of June 20, 2001, includes a form PTO-892 on which the Examiner has cited four U.S. patents to Ichifuji et al. (Ichifuji), Morrison, Proehl et al. (Proehl), and Alexander et al. (Alexander). The Examiner has referred to Morrison, Proehl, and Alexander on page 8 of the Office Action of June 20, 2001, but has not referred to Ichifuji in the Office Action of June 20, 2001.

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reference
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Proehl cited by the Examiner is not available as a reference against the claims of the present application because the U.S. filing date of October 30, 1998, of Proehl is after the effective U.S. filing date of April 18, 1997, of the present application.

Alexander cited by the Examiner claims the priority of nine U.S. provisional applications and one international application. However, only one of these applications, i.e. U.S. provisional application Serial No. 60/034,784 filed on December 19, 1996, has a U.S. filing date which is before the effective U.S. filing date of April 18, 1997, of the present application. Accordingly, Alexander is available as a reference against the claims of the present application only to the extent it includes subject matter which was disclosed in U.S. provisional application Serial No. 60/034,784. What subject matter, if any, this might be is not apparent from Alexander itself.

Claims 12-15 have been amended to more clearly define the present invention, and new claims 19-23 have been added to recite the present invention in different terms.

Claims 12, 14-16, and 18 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Lawler et al. (Lawler. This rejection is respectfully traversed, both with respect to claims 16-18 and insofar as the rejection may be deemed to be applicable to claims 12-15 in their present form and to new claims 19-23.

Independent claim 12 now recites a digital broadcasting receiver which displays video or a plurality of character information strings of programs when receiving digital broadcasting, comprising an omission display controller which omits a part of a character information string of a particular program when a number of characters in the character information string of the particular program is larger than a number of characters which can be displayed in a first prescribed zone, and a full display controller which displays, in response to a predetermined selection, an entirety of the character information string of the particular program and time information of the particular program in a second prescribed zone.

New dependent claim 19 recites a digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 12, wherein the time information of the particular program is a start time and an end time of the particular program.

In explaining the rejection of claim 12, the Examiner states as follows:

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OA - }
Considering claim 12, Lawler et al. disclose a program time guide for an interactive system. Lawler et al. disclose the following claimed limitations, note :

1) the claimed digital broadcasting receiver which displays video or a plurality of character information strings of programs when receiving digital broadcasting is met by the viewer stations 16 (column 5, lines 7-28, and column 6, lines 41-53, and FIG. 3),

2) the claimed omission display controller which omits a part of a

character information string of a program when the character information string of the program cannot be displayed in full in a first prescribed zone is met by the description of interactive station controller 18 (column 8, lines 24-26 and 46-54 , FIG. 3) where FIG. 3 depicted an program title with the abbreviated title with a string of period "... " to indicate the abbreviation of the title which is considered as the omission , and

3) the claimed full display controller which displays , in response to a predetermined selection , an entirety of the character information string of the program form which part omitted in a second prescribed zone is met the interactive station controller 18 (column 8, lines 24-26 and column 10, 16-41, and FIG. 3), where the described focus frame 102 is considered as the predetermined selection and the described program summary panel 108 includes the full title of the program 112 which is considered as the an entirety of the character information string of the program form which part omitted in a second prescribed zone.

The feature of claim 12 wherein the full display controller displays, in response to a predetermined selection, an entirety of the character information string of the particular program and time information of the particular program in a second prescribed zone and the feature of claim 19 wherein the time information of the particular program is a start time and an end time of the particular program are shown, for example, in Fig. 9 wherein an entirety of the character information string of the particular program and time information (a start time and an end time) of the particular program are displayed in a second prescribed zone constituted by areas 504 and 601. See page 14, line 23,

through page 15, line 14, of the specification, particularly page 15, lines 11-14, of the specification which reads as follows:

The time information display column 601 may be an independent display zone or may be provided within the second program name display column 504 to be expressed together with the program title.

Fig. 3 of Lawler relied on by the Examiner shows a program summary panel 108 which the Examiner apparently considers to correspond to a second prescribed zone as recited in claim 12. However, although program summary panel 108 displays an entirety of a character information string 112 of a particular program as recited in claim 12, it is readily apparent from Fig. 3 of Lawler that program summary panel 108 does not display time information of the particular program as recited in claim 12, wherein the time information of the particular program is a start time and an end time of the particular program as recited in claim 19. See the detailed description of program summary window 108 in column 10, lines 27-55, of Lawler.

Accordingly, it is submitted that Lawler does not disclose the feature of claim 12 wherein the full display controller displays, in response to a predetermined selection, an entirety of the character information string of the particular program and time information of the particular program in a second prescribed zone, or the feature of claim 19 wherein the time information of the particular program is a start time and an end time of the particular program.

Independent claim 16 recites a digital broadcasting receiver which displays video or a plurality of background information blocks indicative of program time when receiving digital broadcasting, comprising a display change controller which changes a background information block indicative of program time when the background information block indicative of program time cannot be displayed in full in a first prescribed zone, and a full display controller which displays, in response to a predetermined selection, full program time information of the changed background information block indicative of program time in a second prescribed zone.

In explaining the rejection of claim 16, the Examiner states as follows:

Considering claim 16, Lawler et al. disclose a program time guide for an interactive system. Lawler et al. disclose the following claimed limitations, note :

- 1) the claimed digital broadcasting receiver which displays video or a plurality of background information block indicative of program time when receiving digital broadcasting is met by the viewer stations 16 (column 5, lines 7-28, and column 6, lines 41-53, and FIG. 3),
- 2) the claimed display change controller which change a background information block indicative of program time when the background information block indicative of program time cannot be displayed in full in a first prescribed zone is met by the description of interactive station controller 18 (column 8, lines 24-26 and 46-54 , FIG. 3) where FIG. 3 depicted an program tile 88 with the abbreviated title with a string of period "... " to indicate the abbreviation of the title which is considered as the background information block indicative of

program time cannot be displayed, while the program tile 88a which depicted the background information block indicative of program time be able displayed in full in a particular prescribed zone, and

3) the claimed full display controller which displays , in response to a predetermined selection , full program time information of the changed background information block indicative of program time in a second prescribed zone is met the interactive station controller 18 (column 8, lines 24-26 and column 10, 16-41, and FIG. 3), where the described focus frame 102 is considered as the predetermined selection and the described program summary panel 108 includes the full title of the program 112 which is considered as the full program time information of the changed background information block indicative of program time in a second prescribed zone.

The feature of claim 16 wherein the full display controller displays, in response to a predetermined selection, full program time information of the changed background information block indicative of program time in a second prescribed zone is shown, for example, in Fig. 9 wherein full program time information (i.e. a start time 20:00 and an end time 22:00) of the changed background information block 503, indicative of program time is displayed in a second prescribed zone 601. See page 14, line 23, through page 15, line 14, of the specification.

Fig. 3 of Lawler relied on by the Examiner shows a program summary panel 108 which the Examiner apparently considers to correspond to a second prescribed zone as recited in claim 16. However, although program summary panel 108 displays a preview window 110 showing a video preview of a

program, a full title of the program 112, and a description of the program 114, it is readily apparent from Fig. 3 of Lawler that program summary panel 108 does not display full program time information of a changed background information block indicative of program time as recited in claim 16. See the detailed description of program summary window 108 in column 10, lines 27-55, of Lawler. It is submitted that full title of the program 112 displayed in program summary panel 108 cannot in any way be considered to be full program time information of a changed background information block indicative of program time as recited in claim 16 as alleged by the Examiner in the explanation of the rejection because the full title of the program 112 includes absolutely no program time information whatsoever.

Accordingly, it is submitted that Lawler does not disclose the feature of claim 16 wherein the full display controller displays, in response to a predetermined selection, full program time information of the changed background information block indicative of program time in a second prescribed zone.

New independent claim 21 recites a digital broadcasting receiver which displays video or a plurality of background information blocks each indicative of a program time period when receiving digital broadcasting, comprising a display change controller which changes a displayed shape of a particular background information block indicative of a program time period when the program time period indicated by

the particular background information block exceeds a program time period which can be displayed in a first prescribed zone, and a full display controller which displays, in response to a predetermined selection, a program start time and a program end time of the program time period indicated by the particular background information block in a second prescribed zone.

It is submitted that Lawler does not disclose the feature of claim 21 wherein the full display controller displays, in response to a predetermined selection, a program start time and a program end time of the program time period indicated by the particular background information block in a second prescribed zone for substantially the same reasons discussed above that Lawler does not disclose the similar features of claims 12, 16, and 19.

Since Lawler does not disclose the features of claims 12, 16, 19, and 21 discussed above, it is submitted that independent claims 12, 16, 19, and 21 and claims 13-15, 17-18, 20, and 22-23 depending therefrom patentably distinguish over Lawler in the sense of 35 USC 102(e), and it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 12, 14-16, and 18 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Lawler be withdrawn.

Claims 13 and 17 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lawler in view of Chang et al. (Chang). This rejection is respectfully traversed, both with respect to claim 17 and insofar as the rejection may be deemed to be applicable to claim 13 in its present form.

Dependent claim 13 now recites a digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 12, further comprising a judge controller which judges whether a number of characters in the character information string of the particular program is larger than the number of characters which can be displayed in the first prescribed zone.

In explaining the rejection of claim 13, the Examiner states as follows:

Considering claim 13, Lawler et al. disclose all the claimed limitations except for the claimed judge controller which judges whether a character information string of a program can be displayed in full in the first prescribed zone.

Nonetheless, Lawler et al. teach the selectively displaying the character information in full or in abbreviated in the first prescribed zone as depicted in FIG. 3 and column 8, lines 46-54, where tile 88 display the omitted part of character information string and while tile 88a display a full character information string. Furthermore, Chang et al. disclose the claimed judge controller which judges whether a character information string of a program can be displayed in full in the first prescribed zone is met by the description at column 3, lines 37-42 and column 6, lines 18-39 and FIG. 8C, where the description at column 6 elucidated the function of judging whether a character information string of a program can be displayed in full in the first prescribed zone.

Since it was known in the art that in order to selectively display a full character information string (full program title) or an omitted part of character information string (abbreviated character information string) in the grid type program guide (graphical user interface) as depicted in FIG. 3 of Lawler et al., where a judge controller which

consists the judgement function would have been inherently included. Furthermore Chang et al. demonstrated it is well known in the art to recognize the claimed judge controller for display either the full character string or truncated character string in the grid formatted graphical user interface as discussed above. Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to recognize the claimed the claimed judge controller which judges whether a character information string of a program can be displayed in full in the first prescribed zone as taught by Chang et al. in the system of Lawler et al..

Dependent claim 17 recites a digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 16, further comprising a judge controller which judges whether a background information block indicative of program time can be displayed in full in the first prescribed zone.

In explaining the rejection of claim 17, the Examiner states as follows:

Considering claim 17, Lawler et al. disclose all the claimed limitations except for the claimed judge controller which judges whether a background information block indicative of program time can be displayed in full in the first prescribed zone.

Nonetheless, Lawler et al. teach the selectively displaying the abbreviated or full background information block of a program title for a particular time slot in the first prescribed zone as depicted in FIG. 3 and column 8, lines 46-54, where tile 88 display the omitted part of background information block and while tile 88a display a full background information block. Furthermore, Chang et al. disclose the judge controller which judges whether an information block can be displayed in full in the first prescribed zone as described by the description at

column 3, lines 37-42 and column 6, lines 18-39 and FIG. 8C, where the description at column 6 elucidated the function of judging whether the information block can be displayed in full in the first prescribed zone.

Since it was known in the art that in order to selectively display a full background information block (full program title) or an omitted part of character information string (abbreviated background information block) in the grid type program guide (graphical user interface) as depicted in FIG. 3 of Lawler et al., where a judge controller which consists the judgement function would have been inherently included. Furthermore Chang et al. demonstrated that it is well known in the art to recognize the claimed judge controller for display either the full information block or truncated information block in the grid formatted graphical user interface as discussed above. Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to recognize the teaching of Chang et al. and further obviously rendered the recognition of the claimed judge controller which judges whether a background information block indicative of program time can be displayed in full in the first prescribed zone in the system of Lawler et al..

Although the propriety of the position taken by the Examiner with respect to the features recited in claims 13 and 17 is not conceded, it is submitted that this issue is moot because it is submitted that Lawler and Chang do not disclose or suggest the feature of independent claim 12 wherein the full display controller displays, in response to a predetermined selection, an entirety of the character information string of the particular program and time information of the particular program in a second prescribed zone which feature is also recited in claim 13 by virtue of

its dependency from independent claim 12, or the feature of claim 16 wherein the full display controller displays, in response to a predetermined selection, full program time information of the changed background information block indicative of program time in a second prescribed zone which feature is also recited in claim 17 by virtue of its dependency from independent claim 16, for the reasons discussed above in connection with the rejections of claims 12 and 16.

Since Lawler and Chang do not disclose or suggest the features of 13 and 17 discussed above, it is submitted that claims 13 and 17 patentably distinguish over Lawler and Chang in the sense of 35 USC 103(a), and it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 13 and 17 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lawler in view of Chang be withdrawn.

Although dependent claims 13-15, 17-18, 20, and 22-23 are considered to be allowable by virtue of their dependency from allowable independent claims 12, 16, and 21, it is noted that these dependent claims also recite further features of the present invention which are not seen to be disclosed or suggested by the prior art.

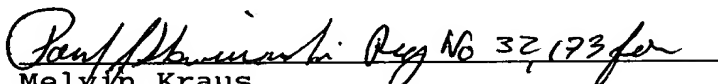
As recognized by the Examiner, the other references cited but not relied upon neither disclose nor suggest the present invention, and thus no further discussion of these other references is deemed necessary at this time.

It is submitted that all of the Examiner's objections and rejections have been overcome, and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and an action of a favorable nature are respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.35360CX1).

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments